

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 AF-04 IO-03 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 EUR-10 ACDA-10

MC-02 RSR-01 /075 W

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R 150635 Z MAY 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3041

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T CAIRO 1427

LIMDIS

EO 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: MARR EG LY

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PILOTS FOR LIBYAN MIRAGES

1. RELIABLE USINT SOURCE RECENTLY ATTENDED SMALL SOCIAL GATHERING WHICH WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE MAJOR HANI TEWFIQ KAMEL. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, KAMEL IS AN EGYPTIAN PILOT QUALIFIED FOR MIRAGES. IN COURSE OF EVENING KAMEL DISCLOSED THAT HE WAS ONE OF 200 EGYPTIAN PILOTS AND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL WHO HAD BEEN TRAINED FOR MIRAGE OPERATIONS IN FRANCE. KAMEL SAID FRENCH AUTHORITIES KNEW THAT THEY WERE EGYPTIAN. DECISION TO TRAIN EGYPTIANS HAD BEEN MADE AFTER THE FIRST 20 LIBYAN PILOT CONDIDATES HAD ALL WASHED OUT OF THE PROGRAM. A TOTAL OF SIX LIBYAN PILOTS SUBSEQUENTLY SUCCEEDED IN QUALIFYING FOR MIRAGES.

2. KAMEL ALSO SAID THAT 75 PERCENT OF THE MIRAGES DELIVERED TO LIBYA ARE CURRENTLY IN EGYPT. ALMOST ALL EGYPTIAN PILOTS AND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL ARE BEING ORDERED BACK TO EGYPT , LEAVING AT MOST FIVE OR
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SIX EGYPTIAN MIRAGE- QUALIFIED PILOTS IN LIBYA. KAMEL
HIMSELF HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO EGYPT AND IS RETURNING
SHORTLY TO LIBYA TO PACK HIS HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS.
GREENE

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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30 JUN 2005

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TEL AVIV
TRIPOLI
Type: TE
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